Tonto National Forest, 2324 East McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85006 www.fs.usda.gov/Tonto

For Immediate Release May 6, 2011

# Fire restrictions on Tonto National Forest begin May 11, all fireworks prohibited year-round

**Contact: Fire Information Officer** 

602-525-1042

**PHOENIX** (May 6, 2011) – Drought conditions, hot temperatures and increased fire danger have resulted in fire restrictions for the Tonto National Forest beginning at 8 a.m., Wednesday, May 11. Most types of fire or fire-causing activities are prohibited across the entire Tonto National Forest.

Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire or charcoal-burning device is prohibited.

Restrictions also apply to smoking outside of a cleared area, operating internal combustion power tools, using welding equipment or torches with open flames, operating combustion engines without spark-arresting devices in effective working order, or discharging firearms except in taking game in accordance with Arizona hunting laws.

Use of petroleum-fueled stoves, lanterns, and heating devices are allowed, and some developed campgrounds are also exempted from these restrictions. (**Please see attached list**).

"Because of ongoing drought, dry forest conditions, and exceptionally low relative humidities, fire restrictions are needed to protect forest users, structures and natural resources from the increased potential for dangerous wildland fires," said Tonto National Forest Fire Staff Officer Clay Templin. "These precautionary measures are intended to enhance our visitors' quality recreation experiences. Most areas of the Tonto National Forest remain available for recreation activity, including all the Salt River system lakes."

"We continue to remind the public that all fireworks are prohibited on the forest at all times," concluded Templin.

Violation of these restrictions is punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000 and imprisonment for up to six months.

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# Tonto NF fire restrictions in effect May 11, 2011

For more information regarding forest recreation sites and fire restrictions, please contact the Tonto National Forest at (602) 225-5200, or check online at www.fs.usda.gov/Tonto

For general information on fire activity and restrictions in Arizona call toll free 877-864-6985, or visit the. **Southwest Coordination Center website:** <a href="http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc">http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc</a> or <a href="http://www.publiclands.org/firenews/AZ.php">http://www.publiclands.org/firenews/AZ.php</a>

### **Useful Websites:**

National Incident Information System <a href="http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc">www.inciweb.org</a>
Southwest Coordination Center: <a href="http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc">http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc</a>

National Interagency Fire Center: <a href="www.nifc.gov">www.nifc.gov</a>
National Fire Plan: <a href="www.forestsandrangelands.gov">www.forestsandrangelands.gov</a>

FireWise: www.firewise.org

### **ARIZONA** Websites:

www.azfireinfo.com (fire prevention and restrictions)

www.publiclands.org/firenews/AZ.php (fire restrictions and other public lands information)

www.azsf.az.gov. (wildfire information and Firewise)

<u>www.azein.gov</u> (Arizona Emergency Information Network for ALL hazard emergency and disaster information)

Fire Restriction Information: Toll free 1 (877) 864-6985

# **Tonto NF fire restrictions in effect, May 11 2011**

# Campfires are allowed in fire grills and grates provided by the Forest Service in the following developed recreation sites:

Cave Creek Ranger District Bartlett Lake Recreation Area

Bartlett Lake Marina Rattlesnake Cove Rattlesnake Group

S B Cove Yellow Cliffs

**Lower Verde Recreation Area** 

Riverside Campground Needle Rock Campground

**Seven Springs Recreation Area** 

CCC Campground
Seven Springs Picnic At

Seven Springs Picnic Area Cave Creek Group Site

**Horseshoe Lake Recreation Area** 

Horseshoe Lake Campground

Mesquite Campground

Globe Ranger District Pioneer Pass, in the Pinal Mtns

Sulphide Del Ray, in the Pinal Mtns

Kellner, in the Pinal Mtns

Ice House CCC, in the Pinal Mtns

Pinal, in the Pinal Mtns

Upper Pinal, in the Pinal Mtns

Warnica Group Site in the Pinal Mtns Jones Water, off AZ Hwy 77 north of Globe Oak Flat, off AZ Hwy 60 east of Superior

Timber Camp

Timber Camp Horse Camp Picket Post Campground

**Tonto Basin Ranger District** Diversion Dam Picnic Site

Vineyard Frazier Windy Hill Cholla Grapevine

Cottonwood Picnic Site Schoolhouse Campground Indian Point Campground

Burnt Corral

Apache Lake Marina Picnic Area

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### Mesa Ranger District

Saguaro Lake Marina Saguaro Del Norte Butcher Jones Canyon Lake Marina

Acacia
Boulder
Laguna
Palo Verde
Granite Reef
Phon D Sutton
Coons Bluff
Goldfield
Pebble Beach
Blue Point

Sheep's Crossing Water Users

Larry Forbis Group Site Pobrecito Boat Staging Area Tortilla Flat Campground

# **Payson Ranger District**

Houston Mesa Campground Houston Mesa Horse Camp Ponderosa Campground Sharp Creek Campground Upper Tonto Creek Campground Christopher Creek Campground

### **Pleasant Valley Ranger District**

Falls Campground
Reynolds Creek Group Site
Rose Creek Campground
Alderwood Campground
Sawmill Flats Campground
Haigler Canyon Campground
Colcord Ridge Campground
Airplane Flats Campground
Upper Canyon Campground
Valentine Ridge Campground